

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A switch for handling call connections between calling devices and called devices on a plurality of trunk lines associated with the switch. The switch comprises: 1) a main processing unit for executing call process client applications, wherein each of the call process client applications is associated with one of the call connections; and 2) N call application nodes for executing call process server applications, wherein a first call process server application is executed on a first call application nodes and is associated with a similar second call process server application executed on a second call application nodes separate from the first call application node. The first and second call process server applications form a first load sharing group server application. Each call process client application sends a call process service request to the first load sharing group server application and the first load sharing group server application selects one of the first and second call process server applications to perform the requested call process service according to a load distribution algorithm.